

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1, 10, 11 and 33 are amended and claims 2 and 7-9 are cancelled herein without prejudice. Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

In Office Action dated November 4, 2004, the claims were restricted to one of the inventions identified by the Examiner as:

1. Claims 1-11 and 33; and
2. Claims 12-32.

In response, Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, group 2 (claims 12-32). In addition, claims 1 and 33 are amended herein to be dependent upon claims 12 and 29, respectively. Accordingly, it is believed that, upon allowance of claims 12 and 29, the dependent claims in group 1 above would be allowable over the prior art of record, at least for the reasons for which claims 12 and 29 are allowable.

Applicant reserves the right to seek patent protection for any non-elected invention in a further application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit

Account No. 50-0872. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 15, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 23392

Telephone: (310) 975-7963

Facsimile: (310) 557-8475

By: 

Ted R. Rittmaster

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 32,933